

10/500104
DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 JUN 2004
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4/A

In re the Application of:

NISHIMOTO et al

International Appln. No.: PCT/JP02/13347

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Attorney Dkt. No.: 62533.00015

For: STAIRCASE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 25, 2004

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below. This Preliminary Amendment complies with the amendment format as set forth in 68 Fed. Reg. 38611 dated June 30, 2003.

Amendments to the claims are submitted on page 2.

Remarks are submitted on page 11.